
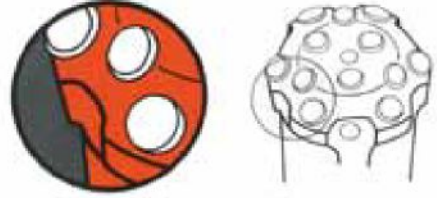







Rock Bit Care

The total life or distance that a rock bit will drill depends on many factors. Of these, rock bit reconditioning can be the major factor both in the cost and performance of any rock bit, button or rooftop insert.

Button	Illustration
<p>1. Button bits should be reconditioned when the body wears away faster than the button wears, causing it to protrude excessively. This will prevent the button from pinching or shearing off. This frequently happens in softer abrasive ground.</p>	 <p>BODY WEAR - EXCESSIVE PROTRUSION</p>
<p>2. When the button wears at a more rapid rate than the body, especially in harder, more abrasive rock, the buttons should be reconditioned frequently.</p>	 <p>WORN FLUSH WITH BODY</p>
<p>3. Button bits should be reconditioned if the buttons polish or show signs of surface fracturing in non-abrasive rock. This will prevent the surface fractures from propagating which could result in fracturing the buttons.</p>	 <p>SURFACE FRACTURING</p>
Rooftop	Illustration
<p>1. Rooftop bits should be reconditioned when the dullness of the cutting edge is 3/32" (2.5mm) flat, measured on the gable halfway between the centerhole and the outside diameter of the bit.</p>	 <p>DULLNESS OF CUTTING EDGE</p>
<p>2. A bit should be sharpened when the outside corner of the insert has worn in excess of 3/16" (5.0mm) radius.</p>	 <p>WORN OUTSIDE CORNER</p>
<p>3. Rock bits should be gauge ground when the bit begins to reverse gauge.</p>	 <p>REVERSE GAUGE</p>
<p>4. In non-abrasive ground, a bit should be sharpened periodically to remove any high polished area of the insert or surface fracturing to prevent the surface fractures from propagating which could result in a fractured insert.</p>	 <p>SURFACE FRACTURING</p>